FEBRUARY

at the

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

FEBRUARY MEETINGS
(For Members and Their Guests)

DATES: Wednesday evening February 17 and Thursday evening February 18

TIME: 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: May Treat Morrison Auditorium

SPEAKER: Dr. Edward S. Ross

SUBJECT: "AFRICANS I HAVE MET"

Probably no member of the Academy staff has traveled farther afield in the ever-elusive pursuit of scientific knowledge than Dr. Ross, Curator of the Department of Entomology. His world-wide research project dealing with Embioptera (a little-known order of tropical, web-spinning insects) has found him circling the globe and his travel and research are far from complete. His peregrinations have included, among many others, five safaris in Africa — from the Mediterranean to the Cape of Good Hope and from Matadi to Mombasa. Having personally driven more than 100,000 miles of Africa's roads, he may well hold some sort of safari record.

Fascinating as his study of embiids may be, Dr. Ross has been equally caught up with his own species. In Africa he has been able to observe and photograph its highly diverse human inhabitants, from the urban centers to the remotest outlying areas, by criss-crossing the continent with his cameras as dependable companions. The amassed record is outstanding. From thousands of pictures taken (and he is a photographer of first-rate excellence as the membership is well aware), his talk will be illustrated with a sampling of the best of his African portraits — a transect of most of the basic ethnic stocks.

"AFRICANS I HAVE MET" will feature a diversity of cultures — Bushmen, Hottentots, the people of tropical forests, the pastoral peoples of East Africa such as the Masai, the sub-Saharan Bantus, and representative people of North Africa's lowlands and highlands (the Berbers). He is fascinated by the role and development of children in these cultures, and his impressions — both photographic and personal—result in a far-reaching, sociological kaleidoscope of this ever-intriguing continent.

There will be two consecutive meetings as indicated and points of ingress to the Academy are the main entrance, Cowell Hall, and the rear Planetarium entrance off Middle Drive. Your 1970 and 1971 membership cards are your admission.

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"SHOW AND TELL" continues through February 28. Morrison's occasional romp that takes you behind the scenes and shows you how all those marvelous effects are created by the highly-complex, magical star projector. Want us to whip up a shooting star, aurora borealis, comets, thunderstorms, what-have-you? Sure it can be done — with a flick of the wrist.

Performances daily at two with evening shows, Wednesday through Sunday, at eight. Extra performances Saturdays, Sundays and holidays at 3:30. Closed Monday and Tuesday nights. Admission: $1.00 for adults, with half-price for children under 16, students (with card), and armed services personnel.

SPECIAL EXHIBIT

"SPACE PAINTINGS BY CHESLEY BONESTELL", February 1 through March 31, in Hohfeld Hall of Space and Science. Forty original paintings of space subjects by a distinguished painter-architect-astronomer and one of the world's foremost illustrators of the planets, planetary surfaces, stars and other celestial themes.

NEWS and NOTES . . . . . .

"Steinhart Divers" aboard Richard Adcock's MARISLA

WITH THE January-February doldrums at hand in tandem with the major and minor disenchantments that color these winterish days, it is a downright pleasure to report a new activity at the Academy that is brightening the local scene in more ways than one. That activity is the establishment of a group of interested men and women who have formed an organization called the 'Steinhart Divers". Basically an invitational affair, the membership — now numbering 33 with a healthy waiting list standing in the wings — came about in June 1970 through the catalytic efforts of two San Francisco businessmen, Les Gunther and Jeff Meyer — both long-term interested members in the CAS who share a passion for diving, collecting, photographing and learning more about aquatic biology. Their enthusiasm for purposeful diving and collecting for Steinhart was noised about and as time passed, more and more equally interested divers — all certified and with a record of underwater experience — wanted to join in the act. Thus came about the "Steinhart Divers". Needless to say, it was all with the approval of Steinhart officials who were impressed with the dedication of the members and who were the determining factor in exactly what the needs were insofar as the aquarium was concerned. Their role was to aid and abet, to advise, assist, tutor as they could, and direct the generous efforts of this wet-suited, heterogeneous group that included teachers, airline pilots, college students, professional scientists, not to mention a total of nine medical doctors. Not one of the group is a spear fisherman.

The first collecting trip was to La Paz Bay in the Gulf of California in June 1970. This was followed by an August trip to the Channel Islands, to the Coronados Islands off San Diego in July, and a September sojourn to Monterey Bay. As a result, Steinhart has specimens on display that it has not had in years together with others which have never before been on display *anywhere*. Hundreds of individual animals have been added including magnificent specimens of golden groupers, elegant orange Garibaldis, garden eels, giant jawfish, white-striped angelfishes, and a host of others scattered throughout Steinhart's brilliant tanks.

All members pay their own expenses for their trips and rarely does Steinhart have to "kick in" for modest fish-transporting charges insuring a safe air journey to a new home in Golden Gate Park.

To Messrs. Gunther and Meyer and their cohorts, a doff of Academy headgear and huzzahs all around!

Meet The Staff . . .

GEORGE F. MURPHY, Senior Stationary Engineer for the great vastnesses of the entire Academy, has a position formidable to contemplate: general maintenance including heating, ventilating, plumbing, electric motors, elevators — you name it and George is involved.

Born in Grand Junction, Colorado, his young life found him keeping up with a peripatetic father who was a senior meteorologist for the Weather Bureau who was transferred hither and yon through many of the western states. George became a licensed marine engineer in 1942 specializing in turbo-electric engines.

Photo by Lloyd Ullberg

He took to the sea and was an oiler on a tanker when World War II loomed over the world. He tried to join the U.S. Navy but was told to "stay put", but it did place him on an Inactive Reserve Status. For a brief period he was employed by Aerojet General but the Korean War pulled him back to sea duty until 1953.

For the following years he was First Assistant Engineer for Pacific Far East and American President Lines and traveled the world. In 1956, he began a series of civil service positions in San Francisco which culminated happily in his present job at the CAS which began in August of 1965.

He and his wife Jan have two children and one grandchild. The Murphys are salmon and trout fishers, traveling far afield in California for new scenes. Mutually, they enjoy archery, all of the spectator sports, camping, and a plain old hound dog called "Missy."

NEW MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY

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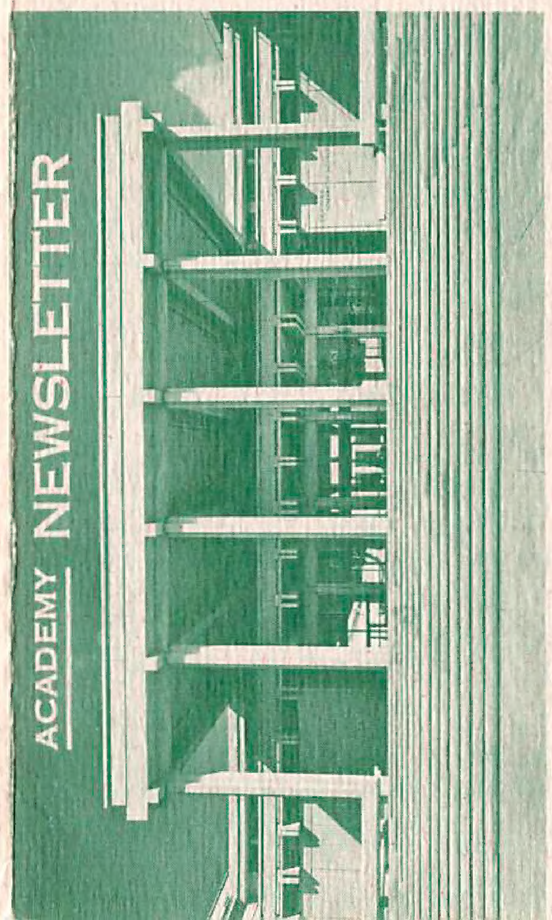

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